

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 357

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Captain Terry D. Rains, United States Navy, for his outstanding and distinguished military career.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to specially recognize members of the United States Armed Forces who have established distinguished records in their military careers and who have demonstrated great courage and competence in battle against our nation's enemies; and

WHEREAS, Captain Terry D. Rains, United States Navy, a native of Nashville, Tennessee, is one such outstanding officer who, since 1972, has served this country in both peace and war with great valor, professionalism, and dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, Terry Rains attended the University of Tennessee from 1969-72 and enlisted in the United States Navy in July of 1972 as a Machinist Mate/Engineering Laboratory Technician in the Nuclear Power Program; following a three-year tour as an Instructor at the S3G Nuclear Prototype in the Ballston Spa/ West Milton, New York area, he was selected for the Naval Enlisted Scientific Program and attended Auburn University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering; and

WHEREAS, Terry Rains was commissioned an Ensign in December of 1979 and underwent initial flight training at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola from 1980-83; he received his wings in February of 1982 and was then an Instructor Pilot in VT-4; and

WHEREAS, Captain Rains completed FA-18 training with VFA-125, at NAS Lemoore, California in July of 1984 and was a plank owner in the first East Coast Hornet Squadron, VFA-131; during his first fleet tour from 1985-89, he completed two Mediterranean cruises on the

USS Coral Sea (CV-43), accumulating more than 1000 Hornet hours and 300 carrier arrested landings and participating in Operation Eldorado against Libya in April of 1986; and

WHEREAS, Captain Rains reported for duty to VFA-106 as the Carrier Qualifications Phase Head, and was designated as a training LSO; he reported to Carrier Airwing One (CVW-1) in September 1989 as Staff LSO and CAG Strike Operations Officer onboard the USS America (CV-66); and

WHEREAS, during that tour, Captain Rains flew 30 combat missions over Iraq in support of Operation Desert Storm; following his CAG LSO tour, he served as Department Head with the Marauders of VFA-82 as a part of Operation Southern Watch over Iraq; and

WHEREAS, in September of 1992, Captain Rains was assigned to the Pentagon as the Aide to the Director of Air Warfare; two years later he reported to VFA-86 as Executive Officer and became Commanding Officer on November 8, 1995. During the period of 1994-97, he had two cruises on the USS America and the USS George Washington, combat missions over Kosovo/Bosnia, and participation in Operation Southern Watch over Iraq; and

WHEREAS, in 1997-98, Captain Rains served as Flag Air Ops for Cruiser Destroyer Group Two and then as Executive Assistant to COMNAVAIRLANT in 1999-2000; following a tour as Flag Air Ops for Carrier Group Four, Captain Rains reported to Strike Fighter Wing Pacific as Commodore in November 2001, completing that tour in November 2003. During that period he was FA-18 Wing Commander Strike Fighter Wing, NAS Lemoore; and

WHEREAS, Captain Rains reported to the United States Naval Academy in July 2003 as Deputy/Chief of Staff to the Superintendent, in which position he continues to serve; and

WHEREAS, Captain Rains has flown more than 4200 flight hours, 3200 of which were in FA-18 Hornets, and logged 944 carrier arrested landings; his awards and decorations include two Legions of Merit, four Meritorious Service Medals, three individual Air Medals with Combat "V", four Navy Commendation Medals, three Navy Achievement Medals, and numerous unit and campaign awards; and

WHEREAS, committed to family values of the highest order, Captain Rains enjoys the love and support of his wife of 32 years, Janie, and their daughter, Claire, and her husband, Lieutenant Geoff Bowman; and

WHEREAS, the distinguished Naval career of Captain Rains can only be categorized as outstanding, and his courage and competence are unquestioned; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend Captain Terry D. Rains on his outstanding Naval career, praise him for his dedication to his country, and thank him for his courage in the face of combat and his unceasing commitment to duty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.